Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Naomi Isabel Picking was born on April 21, 1905, to Alonzo and Dora Picking at Utica, South Dakota, and soon after moved to Yankton, South Dakota, where she and her four brothers grew up; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Naomi attended Yankton Public Schools, received a teaching certificate from Springfield Normal, and taught 2nd grade in Scotland; and,

Whereas, Naomi married Milford Sweet, and to this union two children were born: Glee and Lonn, who in turn have blessed their lives with five grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren; and,

Whereas, Naomi wrote and presented many programs for her church, taught piano to many students, and loved to make quilts, which were later given to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and,

Whereas, Naomi lived in her ten-room home in Scotland until she was 99½ years old, when she moved to the West Winds Apartment complex where she now resides, and she continues to crochet hangers and make "Kiss-Me's" for friends, neighbors and all who visit; and,

Whereas, Naomi will observe her 100th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as her friends and relatives gather on April 23, 2005, for an open house to honor her and celebrate her life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a woman who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 21, 2005, as

NAOMI SWEET DAY

in South Dakota, and I join all her many friends and relatives in wishing her a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-fourth Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

M. Michael Rounds

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Deputy

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State